Applicant: Paul Mills Serial No.: 10/828,409 Filed: April 20, 2004

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REMARKS

We acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-4, 6, 20, 21 and 26 are allowed and that claims 5, 7-17 and 22-23 would be allowable if amended to address the Examiner's objections. We have also canceled independent claim 24 and dependent claim 7.

Claim Objections

The Examiner raised objections to claims 5, 7-17 and 22-23 as having informalities. We have addressed the Examiner's objections to claims 9, 10, 13, 15, 16 and 22. We have canceled dependent claim 7 rendering moot the Examiner's objection of that claim. We believe that dependent claim 5 further limits the invention recited in claim 1. In particular, while independent claim 1 states that the respective spindle (of at least one of the ribbon transport devices) moves relative to the supporting structure in a direction transverse to the spindle axis, dependent claim 5 further limits the claim by reciting that the sensed movement of the respective ribbon transport device (not just the spindle) relative to the supporting structure is in a direction transverse to the direction of the respective axis of the device.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner rejected claim 24 as anticipated by Nelson (U.S. 5,975,777). We submit that this rejection is most in view of our having canceled claim 24.

We submit therefore that the remaining claims (claims 1-17, 20-23, and 26 are now in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$120 for the Petition for Extension of Time fee (one month). Please apply any other charges, not covered, or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket Number 11033-065001.

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R. Ouhul

Respectfully submitted,

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